

But it was Norman swords and shields on which his power depended; the newcomers could overthrow him when they might think the time was come. And now his old rival Pandulf III, returned from Constantinople. The aged Capuan failed to recover his native dominion but was able to add to the general misery and confusion of the region of Capua and Monte Cassino.

In January, 1045, Rainulf of Aversa died, He was succeeded by his nephew Rainulf Trincanocte, who, after a temporary alliance with Capua, accepted investiture from the Prince of Salerno early in 1046. Gaimar's power had now reached its highest point.

There now arrived in Lower Italy (at the end of 1045 or early in 1046) the greatest of the sons of Tancred, Robert, whose character soon gained him the name Guiscard, "cunning" or "resourceful."

Like his elder brothers he came unattended and with little but his horse and arms. But the character of the young adventurer promised him a great destiny; he possessed to the highest degree that valour tempered with prudence, that greed and ambition controlled by invincible patience and endurance, which were the true gifts of the Norman race. His physical strength and beauty

were not inferior to his mental gifts; he
is described
by the Byzantine historian Anna
Comnena as
being tall and powerfully built,
standing head and
shoulders over his tallest comrades,
his head
covered with fair curls, his voice of
such Homeric